

E. C. KNIFFIN, BACK IN COLUMBUS, OFFERS TO COMPLETE VALLEY WELL IF HE CAN SECURE NECESSARY LEASES

E. C. Kniffin is back in Columbus, after making a "trekking" in Texas oil holdings of around \$100,000.

He has big news for Columbus.

He will not only complete the Valley Oil company well, seven miles from Columbus, but will place two standard rigs in other locations providing the leaseholders who hold the patents in adjacent lands agree to quick sell off their leases.

Mr. Kniffin says he will not run after leases, but if the owners will dispose of their leases the more way they do in the Texas Delta, a north-south and an east-west in eight hours, and sell him enough to protect an expenditure of \$50,000, he will have the Valley Oil well in operation immediately and in thirty or forty days will install two standard rigs in other locations.

As a guarantee a bond will be extended binding him to an agreement as outlined.

The Courier emphasizes the fact that NOW IS THE TIME of all others to come together and get the necessary leases. It is the one big opportunity.

E. C. Kniffin, through his personal acquaintance with one Texas railroad president, secured a long time ago, leases to railroad lands, which at that time had no real value. Three weeks ago he sold one lease for \$75,000 cash; last week he disposed of another for \$60,000 and is still has other holdings. He has the money and wants to prove his faith in the Valley Oil well and the Columbus field. So it is up to Columbus to secure the leases. He is not after subscriptions, or cash. Leases and leases only will start work in thirty days. And any lease made to him will be exactly like leases executed every day in Texas and other fields.

TWO "BUDDIES" MARRY WIDOW AND DAUGHTER

Baltimore, Md., April 4.—The relationship of two soldiers at Fort MeHenry was strangely changed from that of "Buddy" to one becoming the stepfather-in-law to the other by a double wedding in which they married a widow and her daughter. The double wedding took place when Harrison C. Lamb was married to Mrs. Ida C. Phoebe and George A. Reams married her daughter, Miss Mary Phoebe.

ARMY OFFICERS TO BE REAL HUMAN BEINGS

Efforts to effect "human communion" between the army and public have been ordered by Secretary of War Baker in a letter to General March, chief of staff. He stated that all officers be instructed to establish cordial and personal relations with civilian officials, business men, and heads of civic organizations, so that they might be made aggressive for "an active, working force for the upbuilding of the new army."

24th Has Fine Library.

The Courier reporter had occasion to visit the post library of the 24th Regiment and was agreeably surprised to note what an up-to-date institution it is. Judged from the standpoint of equipment and resources, the large number of soldiers in attendance was a true index into the deep interest that is being manifested, as well as the strongest evidence of thorough appreciation of the advantage offered by this splendid library. Magazines of every description and daily papers of all large cities are received in yearly subscription. The efficiency of the staff, consisting of Librarian James MacDougall and his two able assistants, Ferrel Foster and A. J. Phillips, is in a class alone. The service they give is of the highest and the very highest. So let us hope for more institutions like this splendid library.

NEW MEXICO NEWS.

Another Oil Enterprise.

A carload of machinery was unloaded here this week for the Spalding Dome oil well. This will be located about 16 miles northwest of Fort Sumner. The securing of sufficient casing appears to be a drawback in drilling contemplated.

Snow in White Mountains.

More than two feet of snow covers the road through the Dark canyon to the Mesquero Indian reservation and from the divide as far this way as Glenora there is lots of snow everywhere. This is the report brought to this city by those who have lately returned by way

of the Indian Agency from El Paso.

A Big Fish.

The largest fish caught this season from the Pecos river is reported. Brownie Grady, having the luck to land a forty-four pound catfish, below the lower dam of the Public Utilities company dam. The fish was caught on a small silk line and gave the fishermen some sport before he finally landed it. This is the largest fish caught here for several years.

Two Gallop Miners Killed.

Jose Maria Padilla, age 37 years, died Friday evening shortly after being taken to St. Mary's hospital for treatment after being fatally injured about the head and shoulders from the effects of an explosion in the Keopere mine about 3 o'clock. He was placing the shot when it went off.

An Indian boy about 16 years of age was killed by a fall of rock in the government mine at Crown Point, N. M., Wednesday morning.

A Varangian Killed in Auto Accident.

Joe Varangian was instantly killed Tuesday morning when his car upset with him about one-half mile from Clayton in the Mt. Eerie road. He and his son-in-law, Oscar Tench, were coming into town from Socorro for family supplies when the accident occurred.

Mr. Tench was driving the car and stated that deep sand caused the accident. The front right wheel suddenly dropped into deep sand and caused the car to completely turn over.

Mr. Tench was also badly injured, his right shoulder being broken and his body otherwise badly bruised.

Roads Too Expensive in Illinois.

The Chicago Tribune of March 11, 1935, announces the abandonment of the 1935 road program for Illinois, according to a statement of the Taxpayers Association of New Mexico. This announcement followed a conference between Frank I. Bennett, director of the public works highway department, Thomas G. Yarnum, assistant director, S. E. Brad, superintendent of highways, and Clifford Glover, chief highway engineer. The failure of the 1935 road program is ascribed to high bids, the car shortage and the financial situation. Roads sold at the present time would involve a discount of six or seven dollars per hundred, which would be equivalent to adding \$2,500 to the cost of each mile of road and make the total cost nearly \$47,000 for each mile of road built.

"HIT BACK" DISCOVERED AND IDENTITY MOUNTAIN REVEALED

Lordsburg, N. M., April 3.—Despite Jack Reed, following a tip from a prospector, found a still located 2,000 feet high on a mountain. He destroyed the still and arrested David H. Phillips, at whose place was found tons of spirits from which the "sour mash" was made. Phillips is already under two-year federal sentence and \$10,000 bond for liquor crimes committed in Arizona, at his arrest with Uncle Sam will probably make quite a continued story. In speaking of the clever raid, Mr. Brown, one of the government men, who were known the game, said:

"It is one of the best and most complete yet up since I ever saw. Jack Reed did a fine piece of work. We have worked in Kentucky, Tennessee and West Virginia mountains, still country, but this one was the cleverest. It was the most inaccessible, perfectly hidden, out of the way place, 7,000 feet up in the mountain, we ever saw. We had to rest six or seven times going up there. Aside from the illicit still we got three gallons of whiskey and 200 gallons of 'sour mash.' Everything was destroyed except what we need for evidence. These fellows had to pack up on their backs for at least 1,000 feet every thing they used. Near a spring seep they had made a reservoir and had stored a small body of pure, soft water. The retreat was practically inaccessible from every point and its capture leads all records in the west."

LIEUT. LARRY MULLOY UP FOR PROMOTION

A promotion board consisting of Col. Harry A. Eaton, Twenty-third Infantry; Col. Harris Proddleton, Jr., Ninth Infantry; Lieut. Col. Frederick C. Test, Twenty-third Infantry; Maj. Richard K. Cole, Medical Corps, has been appointed by order of Brigadier General Dickman, commanding general of the southern department, to meet at Camp Travis at the call of its president to examine such officers as may be ordered to appear before it for the purpose of determining their fitness for promotion. The following officers who are now stationed at Fort Bliss have been ordered to proceed to Camp Travis and appear before this board of officers: Maj. Carroll F. Armstrong, Infantry; First Lieut. Larry Mullon, Twenty-fourth Infantry; First Lieut. John P. Moran, Nineteenth Infantry; and First Lieut. Justin S. Hemenway, Thirty-seventh Infantry.

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